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FEB-02-2001 16:58 FROM LAW OFFICES

U OF U NEUROBIO & ANAT  
TO

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No.: UT-0003  
Inventors: Rao and Mujtaba  
Serial No.: 09/073,881  
Filing Date: May 6, 1998  
Examiner: J. Kerr  
Group Art Unit: 1633  
Title: Common Neural Progenitor for the CNS and PNS

Honorable Commissioner of  
Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

DECLARATION OF MAHENDRA S. RAO

I, Mahendra S. Rao hereby depose and say:

1. I am a co-author along with Anjali Kalyani and Kristin Hopson of the Abstract entitled "Neuroepithelial Stem Cells: Isolation, Characterization and Clonal Analysis" published by the Society for Neurosciences and presented at a meeting November 16-21, 1996.

2. I am also a co-inventor along with Tahmini Mujtaba of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/073,881 filed May 6, 1998 which claims priority from U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/852,744, filed May 7, 1997 and am most familiar with the subject matter of this application and the research effort which lead to the discovery of the instant invention.

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3. The roles of my co-authors Anjali Kalyani and Kristin Hopson were as follows:

Anjali Kalyani was a graduate student in my laboratory who identified and maintained neuroepithelial stem cells in cultures. However, the focus of her efforts was not directed at neural crest derivation from the neural epithelial stem cells.

Kristin Hopson was a technician in my laboratory responsible for making media, taking pictures, and preparing slides.

While their assistance was a tremendous aid to obtaining the data disclosed in this Abstract, they did not contribute to the actual invention claimed in U.S. Application Serial No. 09/073,881. Anjali Kalyani and Kristin Hopson were properly designated as co-authors in view of their roles in generating and analyzing data disclosed in the publication.

I hereby declare that all statements herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information or belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful statements and the like

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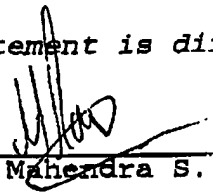
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Attorney Docket No.: UT-0003  
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so made are punishable by fine or by imprisonment, or both, under  
§1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful  
statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any  
patent issuing there upon, or any patent to which this verified  
statement is directed.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Mahendra S. Rao

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

02/02/01